GIBRALTAR YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Rules of Debate in Youth Parliament.

1. When a motion has been moved in the Youth Parliament the Speaker shall propose the question to the Youth Parliament in the same terms as the motion, debate may then take place upon that question.

2. It shall be for the Speaker to set the time limits for each member to speak.

3. A member desiring to speak shall rise in their place and address their observations to the Speaker.

4. A member shall not interrupt another member during their speech except:

    a. By rising to a point of order, when the member speaking shall resume their seat and the member interrupting shall simply direct attention to the point which they desire to bring to notice and submit it to the Speaker for decision.

    b. To elucidate some matter raised by another member in the course of their speech, provided that the member speaking is willing to give way and resumes their seat and that the member wishing to interrupt is called by the Speaker.

5. Only one member may speak at any one time, if two or more members rise at the same time, the Speaker shall call on the member who first catches her eye.

6. A member shall address the argument and not the person making it.

7. No member shall impute improper motives to any other member.

8. Debate upon any motion shall be relevant to that motion.

9. No member may speak to any question after the same has been fully put by the Speaker.

10. A question is fully put when the Speaker has collected the ayes and noes from the panel of adjudicators.

11. Whenever the Speaker speaks during a debate, any member then speaking or offering to speak must sit down and the Chamber is to be silent so that the Speaker may be heard without interruption.

12. The Speaker shall be responsible for the observance of the rules of order during the debate and her decision upon any point of order shall be final and not open to appeal.

13. If a member shows disregard for the authority of the chair or persistently or wilfully obstructs the process of the debate the Speaker may call them to order. If the member persists in their behaviour, the Speaker may direct that they discontinue their speech.

14. If a member indulges in irrelevant or tedious repetition either of their own arguments or of the arguments used by other members in debate the Speaker may call them to order. If the member persists in such behaviour the Speaker may direct that they discontinue their speech.

15. Nothing in these rules shall be deemed to prevent the Speaker from proceeding against any member in any other way she thinks fit in dealing with breaches of order.

16. All questions proposed for decision in the debate shall be determined by the majority of the votes of the members of the panel of adjudicators.